



King County

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King County Councilmember
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Citizen Update



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Joint town hall with District 1 King County Councilmember Rod Dembowski and District 6 Council Vice-Chair Jane Hague.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH
7PM • FINN HILL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
8040 NE 132ND STREET • KIRKLAND

Topics for discussion include transportation, the Eastside Rail Corridor and any other issues of interest to citizens of the Eastside.

You're Invited!

An Eastside Rail Corridor for our Future!

This fall the Eastside Rail Corridor Regional Advisory Council unanimously approved a report on future uses of this important regional corridor. The owners of the ERC — King County, Redmond, Kirkland, Sound Transit and PSE — have come together to collaboratively plan for its future. The report summarizes recommendations for what will become a multi-use corridor, offering connections for trails, high-capacity transit, potential freight reactivation, rail use and utilities for generations to come. We are creating a corridor which will connect



people with jobs, services and recreational opportunities. At the same time, we are preserving the opportunity for future uses of the corridor that will benefit our entire region — an important legacy for generations to come.

*Members of the ERC Regional Advisory Committee
at the RAC Report Signing Ceremony*

✓ Protecting Neighborhoods

Last month the King County Council witnessed a government “of the people, by the people, for the people” in action. The drafting of zoning legislation for marijuana facilities in unincorporated King County was a balancing act between what is legal, what reflects the needs of our neighbors and what is required to conform to emerging state laws. **The amendments that passed ensured that marijuana facilities in the Urban Reserve zone, which includes Redmond Ridge, are prohibited.** Additionally, we required a conditional use permit when any marijuana-related business use exceeds 2,000 square feet. And, this process will be reviewed within three years to see how well it works. Finally, we amended the legislation to allow the County’s permitting department to require marijuana-related businesses to submit odor management plans for facilities producing or processing marijuana. This process was representative democracy at its very best.

✓ A Plan for Fair Enforcement

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) “holds” detain noncitizens in the King County Jail for an additional 48 hours — after the County is ready to release them — in order for ICE to review their immigration status. The Council worked collaboratively to incorporate community concerns about balancing the rights of those placed in detainer status with public safety needs. My colleagues and I spoke with many different constituencies including those representing the immigrant community, King County Prosecutor Dan Satterberg, King County Sheriff John Urquhart and the federal ICE office. **These discussions prompted me to write an amendment to create an Immigration Detainer Oversight Group.** Other amendments added to an existing list of crimes that trigger noncitizens to be held for an additional 48 hours. These crimes include convictions for any sex crime, sexual exploitation of children, burglaries, drive-by shootings, firearms crimes, serious traffic offenses, drug crimes, property crimes, terrorist activities and international child abduction. The legislation approved by the Council was significantly altered from the original proposed version and represents the views of residents across King County.



Preventing Metro Cuts

Due to funding shortages Metro plans to reduce service significantly through the elimination of up to 600,000 hours of bus service this year. That means an end to 65 Eastside bus routes with another 86 routes reduced or changed. Eastside residents depend on local transit and I, like my other elected officials, would rather see a statewide package

but time has run out. As a coalition comes together to discuss a potential ballot measure to support transit and roads, transparency and communication during this process will be essential. **As Vice Chair for Regional Coordination I will be reaching out and listening to the public and our regional partners.** As an elected official I was not elected to see infrastructure minimized and see transit and roads in King County deteriorate when we have a growing populations and economy. During this process we need to be listening to the concerns of citizens, businesses and partner cities as well as acting. You can make your opinion heard on this critical issue by calling (206) 263-9768, through email at haveasay@kingcounty.gov or by going online at <http://metro.kingcounty.gov/am/future>.

South Kirkland Park & Ride Grows to Serve

On September 16th we cut the ribbon on **the new South Kirkland Park and Ride's expanded facility which increases capacity and also provides affordable housing opportunities** for those who live and work in the area. This public and private partnership is an outstanding example of collaboration between the King County Council, the City of Bellevue, the City of Kirkland and Metro Transit along with our private partners, Polygon Northwest and Imagine Housing.



A Responsible Budget

The priority during the 2014 budget process was to continue King County's legacy of delivering quality services that keep us prosperous, safe and healthy. **We increased funding for the sheriff's office, homeless youth, water quality testing, affordable housing, youth services and other initiatives while being good stewards of our resources and accountable to our citizens.** As our economy has

struggled to recover, leadership at King County has worked together to find practical solutions. Unlike "the other Washington," King County has collaborated between the three branches of government and across party and jurisdictional boundaries to get things done. I am proud to help craft a Council budget that makes a positive difference in people's lives. **Learn more at...** <http://1.usa.gov/1eE6dM>



Improving the Northshore Athletic Fields



I was delighted to join Woodinville Little League President Helen Jackson and King County Parks Director Kevin Brown as State Senator Andy Hill presented a symbolic check for \$750,000 to local little leaguers for improvements to the Northshore Athletic Fields.

The state grant will cover upgrades to restrooms, equipment storage, handicapped access, batting cages and the fields. NAF is managed under a public/private partnership with King County Parks. This is a great example of the community, county and state working together to benefit our kids.

Norm Maleng Award



On May 18, 2013 the domestic violence service agency LifeWire (formerly Eastside Domestic Violence Program) hosted their World of

Hope Dinner & Auction. During the event, **Judy Maleng presented the LifeWire's prestigious Norm Maleng Award to me and King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert**, honoring us for our inspirational leadership and dedicated service — personally and professionally — to end domestic violence. I was humbled to receive the Norm Maleng Award, along with Kathy Lambert, for our domestic violence advocacy. It is especially meaningful to me as former King County Prosecutor Norm Maleng was my mentor, colleague and friend. Norm Maleng was a tireless advocate for children and youth and exemplified exceptional leadership and tireless commitment to ending domestic violence." **Learn more about LifeWire at:** <http://www.edvp.org>

Support those who Help Families

I invite you to make a difference to Eastside organizations that are worthy of your time and support. **Youth Eastside Services (YES)**, the agency that has been a resource for generations of families across east King County, is celebrating its 45th year of service. **The Metropolitan King County Council recognized YES and the positive impact it has on young people not only on the Eastside, but all of King County.** They provide mental health counseling, prevention programs and substance abuse treatment. KITH

(Kirkland Interfaith Transition in Housing) is celebrating twenty-five years bringing the "community together to partner with homeless families by providing affordable housing and empowering them with practical case management and hope. My friends and I are perennial participants in the 7 Hills of Kirkland Bike Ride and I am returning as the honorary chair for their "Fighting Homeless Benefit Luncheon" on March 14. There are many organizations worthy of your time and support including the **Boys and Girls Clubs of King County** (www.positiveplace.org); **Hopelink** (www.hopelink.org); **Lifewire** (www.edvp.org); **Bellevue Lifespring** (www.bellevuelifespring.org) amongst others.

